USDC SDNY

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK	DOCUMENT ELECTRONICALLY FILED DOC #:
X	DATE FILED: 8/5/2021
VICTOR BATEN, et al.,	
Plaintiffs,	19-CV-10873 (SN)
-against-	<u>ORDER</u>
116 WEST 32 CAFÉ LLC, et al.,	
Defendants.	
X	

SARAH NETBURN, United States Magistrate Judge:

On August 2, 2021, Plaintiffs' counsel filed a motion for approval of a FLSA settlement and to withdraw as counsel for two Plaintiffs, Hector David Quieju and Manuel Sente Calel. See ECF Nos. 66, 67. The proposed Settlement Agreement purports to bind Plaintiff Quieju. In the event that he contacts Plaintiffs' counsel within 30 days of the Sixth Settlement Payment, the Settlement Agreement states that he will receive an already agreed-upon settlement sum. The Settlement Agreement further provides that regardless of whether Plaintiff Quieju contacts Plaintiffs' counsel (and collects his settlement sum), his claims against the Defendants will be dismissed with prejudice.

Before the Court can approve the settlement as fair and reasonable, Plaintiffs' counsel is ORDERED to file a letter providing any authority to permit a lawyer to settle the claims of a party without that party's consent. Absent any authority, the Court is inclined to strike any settlement on behalf of Plaintiff Quieju and dismiss his claims without prejudice, just as the Court intends to do for Plaintiff Calel, for whom the parties appear not to have

contemplated a settlement. Plaintiffs' Counsel shall file its letter no later than August 13, 2021.

SO ORDERED.

SARAH NETBURN

United States Magistrate Judge

DATED: August 5, 2021

New York, New York